Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research P.O. Box 3044, Room 212 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 From: Sierra Nevada Conservancy 11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205 Auburn, CA 95603

Project Title: Quincy Wildfire Protection Project amendment (SNC #1317.1) (SCH 2021070337)

Project Location – Specific:

Private land adjacent to the southwest side of the Town of Quincy, adjacent to the south side of Bucks Lake Road between Gansner Creek and White Creek. T24N, R9E, Sec16.

Project Location - City: Quincy Project Location - County: Plumas

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) amended grant agreement No.1317 with the Plumas County Fire Safe Council (PCFSC) to include limited herbicide application as an eligible vegetation treatment to be funded under the grant agreement. PCFSC would apply herbicide as a follow-up treatment to no more than 78 acres of land that was previously mechanically treated to remove excess fuels. Herbicide application will be conducted in compliance with applicable Forest Practice Rules under Timber Harvest Plan 2-15-018-PLU. The intent of the project is to reduce risks from wildfire to the community and its critical infrastructure, as well as create a forest structure resilient to the effects of fire.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Plumas County Fire Safe Council

Exempt Status:

Categorical Exemption: State CEQA Guidelines Section 15304 (Class 4), minor alterations to land

Reasons why project is exempt:

The Quincy Wildfire Resilience Project amendment is categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15304 (Class 4). Class 4 is applicable to projects that consist of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation, which do not involve removal of mature, scenic trees except for forestry and agricultural purposes. The minor alterations to vegetation proposed by the project involve the limited application of herbicide as a follow-up to previously approved treatment for community protection from wildfire which included manual and mechanical thinning, mastication, chipping, and hand-thinning on slopes too steep for mechanical equipment. The follow-up treatment is to reduce excess fuels in the

WUI and improve forest health. Timber Harvest Plan 2-15-018-PLU allows for limited use of herbicides for this purpose on the project site. None of the exceptions to the categorical exemption apply to the project.

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Contact Person: Mary Akens Area Code/Telephone/Extension: <u>530-450-5177</u>

If filed by applicant: N/A

- 1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
- 2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project:

 Yes ___ No ___

DocuSigned by: Signature: TBE7430E60B3413	Date: 7/31/2023
Title: Chief Deputy Executive Officer	

Signed by Lead Agency: Yes Signed by Applicant: No

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code. Date received for filing at OPR:

Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.